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Amendments in the Claims: (struck-through parts deleted and underlined parts added)

Claims 1-4 (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) ~~A plurality of modular game pieces for playing a game of checkers, said plurality of game pieces comprising:~~ A game assembly for playing a game checkers comprising:  
10 a game board, said game board having a plurality of squares thereon and defining a checker board;  
a plurality of first base members, each of said first base members resembling a  
15 lower body and including an upper portion and a pair of legs being attached to and extending downwardly from said upper portion;  
a plurality of second base members, each of said second base members resembling a horse having a saddle positioned thereon;  
a plurality of top pieces, each of said top pieces comprising an upper body, each  
20 of said upper bodies resembling a knight and carrying a weapon and a shield, each of said top pieces having a bottom surface; and  
a plurality of couplers for selectively coupling each of said top pieces to one of  
25 said first or second base members, each of said couplers including a female coupler positioned on one of said upper portions and said saddles and a male coupler being positioned on one of said bottom surfaces of said top pieces.
6. (new) A game assembly for playing a game checkers comprising:  
a game board, said game board having a plurality of squares thereon and defining  
30 a checker board;  
a plurality of first base members, each of said first base members resembling a lower body and including an upper portion and a pair of legs being attached to and extending downwardly from said upper portion;  
a plurality of second base members, each of said second base members  
35 resembling a horse having a saddle positioned thereon;

5        a plurality of top pieces, each of said top pieces comprising an upper body, each  
of said upper bodies resembling a civil war soldier, each of said top pieces  
having a bottom surface; and

10      a plurality of couplers for selectively coupling each of said top pieces to one of  
said first or second base members, each of said couplers including a  
female coupler positioned on one of said upper portions and said saddles  
and a male coupler being positioned on one of said bottom surfaces of said  
top pieces.

7.        (new) A method of playing a game of checker comprising the steps of:  
15      providing a game board, said game board having a plurality of squares thereon  
and defining a checker board;

providing a plurality of first base members, each of said first base members  
resembling a lower body and including an upper portion and a pair of legs  
being attached to and extending downwardly from said upper portion;

20      providing a plurality of second base members, each of said second base members  
resembling a horse having a saddle positioned thereon;

providing a plurality of top pieces, each of said top pieces comprising an upper  
body, each of said upper bodies resembling a knight and carrying a  
weapon and a shield, each of said upper bodies having a bottom surface;

25      providing a plurality of couplers for selectively coupling each of said top pieces to  
one of said first or second base members, each of said couplers including a  
female coupler positioned on one of said upper portions and said saddles  
and a male coupler being positioned on one of said bottom surfaces of said  
top pieces;

30      attaching each of the first base members to one of said top pieces to define a  
plurality of checker men;

positioning the checker men on the game board and moving the checker men  
according to the rules of checkers; and

5 removing the first base members from the upper bodies and attaching the second base members to the upper bodies to define kings as needed according to the rules of checkers.

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